

MINUTES
WYOMING CITY COUNCIL
July 18, 2016

The Wyoming City Council met in regular session on July 18, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Wyoming Municipal Building. Vice Mayor Delgado called the meeting to order. In attendance were:

Council Members:

Al Delgado, Vice Mayor
Keith Desserich
Pamela Kamm
Jenni McCauley

Others:

Lynn Tetley, City Manager
Emily Supinger, City Solicitor

MINUTES:

Ms. McCauley moved to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 Regular City Council meeting as amended. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 Regular City Council meeting as amended, carried with all voting yes.

Ms. McCauley moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Special City Council meeting as written. Mr. Desserich seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Special City Council meeting as written, carried with all voting yes.

Ms. Eismeier moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting as written. Ms. McCauley seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting as written, carried with all voting yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Vice Mayor Delgado asked for any Committee reports not otherwise on the agenda. None were received.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Vice Mayor Delgado asked if there were any citizens present that would like to address City Council.

Ms. Carol Liggett, 2 Rolling Hills Drive, addressed City Council and read aloud to them a letter regarding the community gardens:

"My name is Carol Liggett. I have lived in Wyoming for 29 years and I have been gardening at the community gardens for 20 years. Some of the most enjoyable hours of my retirement years were spent there. I have supplied myself, my family, neighbors and friends with fresh produce over the years.

Not at any time were we aware that the entire community gardens were at risk of being abolished for a short segment of a disjointed bike trail.

I have a couple of questions that I think deserve an answer –

Firstly, fourteen years ago, when the proposal was open for discussion, was it made known to the entire Wyoming community that the gardens were to be razed? (Don't know – what is in minutes of 2002?)

Secondly, when did you become aware that the entire garden, not just a small portion, would be destroyed? According to minutes in 2015, the trail was to go alongside the gardens.

So, how do we proceed from this? The City of Wyoming owes it to the community to find in earnest suitable land for a community garden for the present day gardeners and future gardeners. Gardening is hard work, great exercise, mentally uplifting and reaps rewards both in a financial and healthy way!

Even the White House has its own garden promoted by Mrs. Obama!"

Carol Liggett

Vice Mayor Delgado asked and Ms. Liggett provided, her phone number to the City Manager for follow up.

Ms. Liggett read aloud a letter from Ms. Betty Anderson of 17 Rolling Hills Court, who has been the liaison between the City and the gardeners. Ms. Anderson could not attend the meeting due to surgery and Ms. Liggett read her statement to City Council.

"It is hard to express how much I will miss my part of the Community Gardens. Twenty eight years invested in improving the soil. Twenty eight years of learning how to grow better vegetables and flowers. Twenty eight years of making friends with my fellow gardeners. Twenty eight years of sharing my flowers and vegetables with others.

How do you put a value on the Community Gardens? It has been a very special

part of Wyoming, tucked into a small corner of the city surrounded by hills and the Mill Creek for over 70 years. For those of us who love it, it is irreplaceable.

Betty Anderson, resident and tax payer for almost 60 years “

Ms. Joan Cawein, 912, Oregon Trail, addressed Council members. She stated that she began gardening in the community gardens around 1980 and had to drop out around 1995. She has enjoyed working in the dirt and even though it can be hard physical work it is very relaxing. She thanked the city for providing space for the community gardens for as long as it has.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Ms. Lynn Tetley reported that Wednesday evening is Yappy Hour at Village Green from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Yappy Hour is a pop up dog park event that will feature dog related vendor booths, live music, food, and beverages. You don't have to be a pet owner to attend.

BUSINESS:

- A. Video of the 2016 Junior Police Camp: Police Chief Rusty Herzog presented a video of this year's camp activities. Ms. Kamm asked Chief Herzog how old the children have to be to participate in this camp. Chief Herzog explained that the program covers kids in the third, fourth, and fifth grades with 12 kids participating this year.
- B. Report from the Finance Committee on the 2017 Tentative Tax Budget: Mr. Delgado reported that the Finance Committee met and reviewed the proposed Tentative Tax Budget, as prepared by Mr. Caudill, Finance Director. The Tentative Tax Budget must be submitted to Hamilton County by July 22, as required by State law. The revenue

projections include a flat number for Local Government Fund receipts, a 7.5% increase in income tax revenue (from the 2016 budget), and flat number for property tax revenue. Expenses are anticipated to be flat, with the exception of personnel expenses associated with collective bargaining agreements and annual pay reviews. Ms. McCauley asked for clarification with regard to the differences in property tax revenue from the 2014 actual versus the 2017 estimated budget. Mr. Caudill explained that the Council will only allow us to certify 97% of the projected revenue amount the City is permitted to collect. Ms. McCauley asked for clarification as to what defines the Property Tax Allocation. Mr. Caudill explained that this line item encompasses the property tax roll back and homestead exemption. It is primarily the homestead exemption refund.

Ms. Kamm moved to receive the report. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, the motion to receive the report from the Finance Committee on the 2017 Tentative Tax Budget carried with all voting yes.

- C. Public Hearing on the 2017 Tentative Tax Budget: Vice Mayor Delgado opened the public hearing. There being no comments received, Vice Mayor Delgado closed the public hearing.
- D. Resolution Adopting the 2017 Tentative Tax Budget: Ms. McCauley moved to adopt the Resolution. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, the motion to adopt the 2017 Tentative Tax Budget carried with all voting yes.
- E. Report from the Finance Committee on the Assumptions for the 2017-2019 Financial Projections: Vice Mayor Delgado presented the report to Council. The Finance Committee reviewed the proposed assumptions for the 2017-2019 Financial

Projections, as submitted by Mr. Caudill, Finance Director. These assumptions are utilized as guides for City administration when developing the budget and largely mirror the Tentative Tax Budget assumptions. Ms. Eismeier moved to receive the report. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, the motion to receive the report from the Finance Committee on the Assumptions for the 2017-2019 Financial Projections carried with all voting yes.

- F. First Reading of the Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Certain Funds from Designated Accounts and Appropriating Additional Revenues: This Ordinance is adopted in July and December in order to appropriate additional revenue that has been received during this six-month period. Under State law, Council action is only required to approve additional appropriations. Council action is not required for transfers between accounts that do not exceed the Fund appropriation or the departmental appropriation; however, historically, all transfers over \$50 are approved in order to provide a record of budgetary transactions.

Ms. McCauley moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Ms. McCauley moved to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion to adopt the Ordinance Authorizing the transfer of certain funds from designated accounts and appropriating additional revenues carried with all voting yes.

- G. Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application for SCIP 2016-2017 Funds and Execution of Project Agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission: This resolution is required as part of the application process for State Capital Improvement Funds. The City is intending to apply for three projects: Springfield Pike, Ritchie Avenue/Garden Circle, and Vermont Avenue. Awards will be announced

in November 2016. Ms. Kamm moved to adopt the Resolution. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for SCIP 2016-2017 Funds and Execution of Project Agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission carried with all voting yes.

- H. Second Quarter Financial Report: Mr. Jeremiah Caudill, Finance Director, presented the report to City Council. The second quarter financial report provides a financial summary of the first six months of 2016:

General Fund Revenue:

\$5,669,639 total revenues which are comprised of:

- Real Estate taxes of \$1,575,333
- Income Tax receipts of \$3,743,220
- Local Government Fund of \$47,978
- Charges for services of \$47,244
- Permits-\$14,403
- Court costs/fines/forfeits of \$22,193
- Interest of \$32,495
- Other Revenue of \$186,771

General Fund Expenditures:

\$4,187,839 total expenditures comprised of:

- Police Department/Mayor's Court expenditures-\$866,664
- Other Operating expenditures-\$1,115,283
- Public Works/Facilities expenditures-\$788,233
- Fire/EMS expenditures-\$245,848
- Administrative/Legislative/Communication-\$194,652

- Customer Service/Finance expenditures-\$158,577
- Legal expenditures-\$34,003
- Community Development expenditures-\$95,547
- Transfers Out-\$689,031

General Fund Highlights:

- Income Tax receipts up 30% compared to 2015
- Property Tax receipts-\$1,575,333
- Expenses of \$4,187,839 42.57% of budgeted amount compared to 50% of year complete
- Transfer to Health/Life Fund-\$225,000
- Transfer to CIP Fund \$250,000
- Debt Service-\$214,031

Recreation Fund Revenues:

Total Recreation Fund revenues: \$458,642

Major Revenue Sources:

- Recreation-\$225,594
- Civic Center-\$37,244
- Aquatic Center-\$117,122
- Parks & Fields-\$78,682

Recreation Fund Expenditures:

Total Recreation Fund expenditures: \$601,635

Major Expenditure Sources:

- Recreation-\$310,182
- Civic Center-\$63,248
- Aquatic Center-\$176,176

- Parks & Fields-\$52,028

Capital Improvement and Water Works CIP Fund:

Total CIP Fund expenses: \$458,199

(Sidewalk Repairs \$25,553; Public Safety Improvements \$13,115; Street Improvements \$18,016; Recreation Center Improvements \$50,411; SFP Engineering \$105,280; Debt Service \$245,824)

Total WW CIP Fund Expenses: \$56,382

(Ohio EPA Grant-\$11,258; GIS Development \$1,470 Waterworks Master Plan-\$4,773; Debt Service-\$38,880)

Water Revenue Fund:

- 2014 Water Revenues (at end of second quarter)-\$733,189
- 2014 Water Expenditures (at end of second quarter)-\$718,367
- 2015 Water Revenues (at end of second quarter)-\$732,500
- 2015 Water Expenditures (at end of second quarter)-\$862,975
- 2016 Water Revenues (at end of second quarter)-\$727,238
- 2016 Water Expenditures (at end of second quarter)-\$665,654

Non-Major Funds:

Street Construction Fund

- Total Revenue-\$193,782
- Total Expenses-\$146,811

State Highway Fund

- Total Revenue-\$16,160
- Total Expenses-\$12,282

Ms. McCauley commented on the projections and how they are matching up to the budget at the end of the second quarter. Mr. Caudill stated that the projections are up about 5% and that is on target with the budget; he expects that percentage to increase over the prior year's projections by the end of the year. Mr. Desserich questioned that the projections do not include the transfers out. Mr. Caudill stated that was correct. Ms. McCauley asked if the debt service amount is for the calendar year. Mr. Caudill explained that the debt service covers the general obligation bond and the OPWC loans on interest only and on the principal payments on the general obligation bonds which are paid in December each year. The number is actually closer to one million dollars. Ms. Kamm asked if there was any particular program in the Recreation Department that is driving the increase in revenue. Mr. Caudill stated that he does not believe one particular program in general is driving the increase. The Department has created new programs this year and the day camp is trending up as usual. Ms. McCauley asked when the last water works master plan was written. Mr. Caudill stated that he did not have that information with him. Mr. Huxel stated that approximately four and a half years ago a hydraulic study was completed which is generally done when a master plan is done. Ms. McCauley asked if the City has done any planning if water usage continues to decline. Mr. Caudill stated that a five year projection was completed to look at what could be done to reduce expenditures and this fall another projection will be completed to see if rates need to be adjusted. Ms. McCauley stated that many people are concerned with sewer rates. Mr. Caudill stated that Hamilton County has not increased the sewer rates this year; they are dealing with other issues at this time. Approximately two-thirds of the water bill a resident receives is for sewer.

Ms. Eismeier moved to receive the report. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no further comments, the motion to receive the Second Quarter Financial Report carried with all voting yes.

- I. Ordinance Approving Current Replacement Pages to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wyoming and Declaring an Emergency: This annual Ordinance approves and adopts the incorporation of the local Ordinances that have been passed or amended during the last year into the Codified Ordinances of Wyoming. It also approves and adopts the traffic and general offense code amendments passed by the General Assembly over the last year. Ms. McCauley moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Kamm seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Ms. Kamm moved to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the Ordinance approving current replacement pages to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wyoming and Declaring an Emergency carried with all voting yes.
- J. Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Ordinance No. -04-2016, Passed June 20, 2016 Entitled, "An Ordinance Authorizing Placement of Proposed Revisions to the Charter of the City of Wyoming on the November 8, 2016 Ballot as to Section 3.04 Mayor: Election, Term, Qualifications, and Powers, Section 3.05 Vice Mayor, Section 3.07 Council Meetings, Section 3.07 Council Meetings, Section 3.09 Removal and Vacancies, Section 4.06 Purchases and Contracts, and Section 8.02 Nominations and Declaring and Emergency" and Declaring an Emergency: The Board of Elections determined the June version of this Ordinance was adopted too far in advance of the November election date and thus, needed to be repealed and readopted. This legislation satisfies this requirement of the Board of Elections. Ms. McCauley moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to suspend the rules carried with all voting yes. Ms. Kamm moved to adopt the Ordinance. Ms. McCauley seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adopt the Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Ordinance No. -04-2016, Passed June 20, 2016 Entitled, "An Ordinance Authorizing Placement

of Proposed Revisions to the Charter of the City of Wyoming on the November 8, 2016 Ballot as to Section 3.04 Mayor: Election, Term, Qualifications, and Powers, Section 3.05 Vice Mayor, Section 3.07 Council Meetings, Section 3.07 Council Meetings, Section 3.09 Removal and Vacancies, Section 4.06 Purchases and Contracts, and Section 8.02 Nominations and Declaring and Emergency" and Declaring an Emergency carried with all voting yes.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. Desserich commented that the residents who spoke about the community gardens had asked two questions and Council did not answer them. Vice Mayor Delgado explained that he had asked for their phone numbers in order that they can be contacted by phone. Ms. Tetley added that the proposal to remove the community gardens to make way for the Hike/Bike Trail extension was made publicly known approximately fourteen years ago at a public hearing at a City Council meeting. The gardeners were made known of partial or full disruption of the gardens again last spring. This information was relayed to the then garden liaison and Mr. Huxel communicated that information to Ms. Anderson as well. The gardeners were made well aware that if the city received the grant funding the trail would be extended and that the gardens would be removed. Ms. Tetley further explained that the gardeners elect a liaison among themselves who then is responsible for disseminating information to the gardeners from the city and vice versa. Mr. Desserich questioned whether this is an effective method of communication. Ms. Tetley explained that she is generally in contact with the garden liaison as she does not have information on each individual garden plot renter. Ms. McCauley inquired if the three gardeners that were present tonight could be given all of this information again and inform them of the current status. Ms. Tetley commented that she can reiterate what the city has already provided them, however she is not aware of what the liaison has disseminated to the gardeners on their own. Additionally, there has been a task force created to discuss the possible relocation of the community gardens. This task force consists of members of the

Recreation Commission, Greenways Committee, Urban Forestry & Beautification Commission, Terry Vanderman, two gardeners, and herself. The gardeners on the task force are the current liaison, Jeff McDonald, and Carolyn Ammerman. Mr. Desserich asked when the next task force meeting will occur. Ms. Tetley stated that it is not appropriate to officially meet until the final design of the trail has been received. It's not prudent to conduct a meeting without knowing how much of the garden space will be needed, and there will be no information to provide them if they meet now. Ms. McCauley commented that the gardeners are not pleased with an early proposal to relocate the gardens to the grounds of the Evergreen Retirement Community. Ms. Tetley agreed.

Mr. Desserich commented on a concern that if the funding is rejected or changed by Council that it may put the Hike/Bike Trail extension in jeopardy. Ms. Tetley explained that if we accept an ODNR grant and then return the funds and not do the project, the City is penalized in the point system for three years; meaning the City would likely not receive any more grant monies during that penalty phase. Mr. Desserich asked for examples of things the grants have paid for in the past. Ms. Tetley stated that grant monies have paid for the current Hike/Bike Trail, bocce ball court, and the tennis courts, to name a few. Ms. McCauley added that the proposed extension of the Hike/Bike Trail is an integral part of connecting all of the regional trail system. Ms. Kamm also noted that in 2008 the home at 1062 Oak Avenue was purchased and held by the Community Improvement Corporation in anticipation of the trail extension. Vice Mayor Delgado asked and Ms. Tetley answered that the grant is \$303,000.

Ms. Eismeier thanked the city for another great Independence Day celebration.

Ms. Kamm thanked the city staff for picking up on an idea by the Promote Wyoming Committee and hosting the Pics on the Pike event. It was a great event and was well attended. She added that the Promote Wyoming Commission is doing a great job.

Vice Mayor Delgado commented that the Muddy Pig was a huge success once again. Ms. McCauley commented that she attended the Muddy Pig for the first time and shared that everyone seemed to be having a great time. Vice Mayor Delgado asked and Chief Herzog answered that there were 570 paid participants at the Muddy Pig.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENT MEMBERS:

Ms. Kamm moved to excuse Mr. O'Reilly and Mayor Porter. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to excuse Mr. O'Reilly and Mayor Porter carried with all voting yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Vice Mayor Delgado stated that there will not be an Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Kamm moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Eismeier seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion to adjourn the meeting carried with all voting yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Martin, Executive Assistant

APPROVED:

Al Delgado, Vice Mayor

Clerk of Council